

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 IOE-00 OIC-02
SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 ARA-06 NEA-10
CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00
SIL-01 ACDA-07 OMB-01 TRSE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 /121 W
-----021335Z 036098 /44

O 021235Z JUN 77

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7872

INFO ./AMEMBASSY ACCRA IMMEDIATE 356

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMCONSUL MELBOURNE

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

ALL EC CAPITALS

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ILO, PLAB, UN, GH, XA

SUBJECT: INTERNATIONAL LABOR CONFERENCE (ILC) ELECTS OFFICERS

1. SUMMARY: MINISTER OF LABOR OF GHANA, CAPT. J.K. AMEDUME
WAS ELECTED PRESIDENT OF THE 63RD SESSION OF THE INTERNATIONAL
LABOR CONFERENCE (ILC). THE VICE-PRESIDENTS ARE: GOVERNMENT
VICE-PRESIDENT, POLISH AMBASSADOR NASZKOWSKI; EMPLOYER VICE-
PRESIDENT COATES (UK); AND WORKER VICE-PRESIDENT IRVING BROWN
(US). FOLLOWING ILO CUSTOM OFFICERS ELECTED BY ACCLAMATION
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IN PLENARY SESSION. BROWN'S ELECTION WAS PROTESTED BY
COMMUNIST WORKER REPS. THEIR ALLEGATIONS WERE
EFFECTIVELY REBUTTED BY LEADERS OF THE MAJORITY OF THE ILO
WORKERS GROUP. END SUMMARY.

2. GHANIAN MINISTER OF LABOR, SOCIAL WELFARE AND
COOPERATIVES CAPT. J. K. AMEDUME ELECTED JUNE 1 PRESIDENT

OF 63RD SESSION OF ILC. AMEDUME'S ELECTION WAS EXPECTED BECAUSE IT IS AFRICA'S TURN FOR ILC PRESIDENCY AND AMEDUME WAS THE CHOICE OF THE AFRICAN REGIONAL CAUCUS. USDEL HOROWITZ WAS AMONG THOSE SECODING AMEDUME NOMINATION. AMEDUME ACCEPTANCE SPEECH WAS CONCILIATORY IN TONE AND INCLUDED CALL FOR CONSENSUS WITH SPIRIT OF COMPROMISE AND MUTUAL ACCOMMODATION. HE LINKED ILO AND UN IN DESCRIBING ILO AS SOCIAL CONSCIENCE OF UN AND ORGANIZATION WHICH CANNOT BE JUDGED APART FROM REST OF UN SYSTEM. HE STATED ILO AIM IS TO CORRECT IMBALANCE BETWEEN RICH AND POOR COUNTRIES IN EVOLUTION TOWARD NEW INTERNATIONAL ECOMONIC ORDER. TEXT OF AMEDUME ADDRESS BEING POUCHED TO ACCRA AND DEPARTMENT (AF).

3. COMMUNIST WORKERS, IN UNPRECEDENTED MOVE, PROTESTED ELECTION OF BROWN BY WORKERS GROUP (ILC PLENARY ALWAYS ACCEPTS NOMINEES OF EMPLOYER AND WORKER GROUPS FOR EMPLOYER AND WORKER VICE PRESIDENCIES). USSR WORKER PIMENTOV ACCUSED WORKERS GROUP OF FAILING TO CONSULT 40 PERCENT OF ITS MEMBERS (READ COMMUNISTS AND ARABS) AND OF FAILING TO TAKE RECORD VOTE IN NOMINATING BROWN. HE ACCUSED AFL-CIO AS BELIEVING ILO WAS USELESS IN PRESENT FORM AND OF THREATENING TO LEAVE ILO IF THEIR DEMANDS CONCERNING ISRAELI RESOLUTION OF 1974 AND ARTICLE 17 AMENDMENT ARE NOT MET. HE OPPOSED BROWN AS THE REP OF THE AFL-CIO AND OF "COUNTRY WHICH WILL LEAVE ILO IN A SHORT TIME." PIMENOV ASKED THAT HIS REMARKS BE PUT INTO ILC RECORD. PIMENOV WAS FOLLOWED BY CUBAN, IRAQI AND PORTUGUESE (FERNANDO RANA) WORKER REPS, WHO MADE SIMILAR STATEMENTS. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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IRAQI ALSO PROTEXTED BROWN'S OPPOSITION TO 74 RESOLUTION; RANA ACCUSED BROWN OF OPPOSING "EQUAL PARTICIPATION" IN ILO OF ALL REGIONS.

4. JOE MORRIS (CANADA), LEADER OF WORKER GROUP AND CYRIL PLANT (UK WORKER REP) DEFENDED NOMINATION OF BROWN BY WORKER GROUP. MORRIS REGRETTED MATTER HAD BEEN BROUGHT TO PLENARY ON "SPURIOUS REASON" THAT BROWN'S NOMINATION HAD NOT BEEN MADE IN ACCORDANCE WITH STANDING ORDER AND PRACTICE OF THE WORKERS GROUP. MORRIS EXPLAINS BROWN HAD BEEN UNOPPOSED WHEN NOMINATED AR WORKERS GROUP MEETING MAY 31 AND HAD WON NOMINATION MORNING OF JUNE 1 BY MORE THAN 60 PERCENT OF VOTE. PLANT ALSO DEFENDED PROCEDURAL VALIDITY OF BROWN'S NOMINATION AND ACCUSED PIMENOV OF PERSONAL ATTACK ON MORRIS. PLANT SAID VOTE WAS 60 FOR BROWN, 40 AGAINST, AND IF MINORITY DID NOT RESPECT THE WILL OF MAJORITY, THE WORK OF ILC WILL NEVER GET DONE.

5. DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO REPEAT THIS MESSAGE TO

APPROPRIATE POSTS. SORENSON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ELECTION RESULTS, INTERNATIONAL LABOR ORGANIZATIONS
Control Number: n/a
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Sent Date: 02-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977GENEVA04346
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: DG ALTERED
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770196-0841
Format: TEL
From: GENEVA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770699/aaaadioc.tel
Line Count: 117
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 1815c486-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2308782
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: INTERNATIONAL LABOR CONFERENCE (ILC) ELECTS OFFICERS
TAGS: ELAB, APER, GH, XA, ILO, UN, (AMEDUME, J K), (NASZKOWSKI), (BROWN, IRVING)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/1815c486-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009